

# Longmeadow Tree Committee

## Meeting Minutes

Tuesday January 17, 2023

Remote Meeting

The Tree Committee meeting was held remotely via Zoom. The meeting opened at 6:08 PM. The following members were present: Chair Dave Marinelli, Mark Tolosky, Patrick Carnahan, Kathy Kucab, Bari Jarvis, Steve Steiner and Tree Warden Sean Van Deusen. William Seefeld attended as a member of the public.

**Public Comments: None**

**December minutes:** Minutes unanimously approved.

### **Old Business:**

Tree Warden Report – Sean discussed Davey Tree Report and requested written comments from the Tree Committee members. Dave pointed out that some trees which were examined in August and September may have already been removed during the tree warden's ongoing response to citizen reports of concern. Sean advised that he and Dave will meet with Davey and Tighe and Bond in order to integrate the data with the town's preexisting inventory.

Eversource removed several public shade trees on West Chestnut Street to allow for replacement of a large electrical transformer. West Chestnut Street, while legally a town street, is functionally a driveway for the Franconia Substation. Eversource will be planting several trees as replacement. Tree locations will be determined at a later date.

Update on Hazard Tree Assessment Survey – Work will be commencing in spring to remove identified hazardous trees and trees that will become hazardous in the near future. Tree removal will be funded via ARPA funding. There was discussion about having tree hearings in the interest of transparency. This is planned.

Update on Spring Tree Planting – Sean wants to do a large spring street tree planting in order to try to replace trees removed last year. Dave and Sean are comparing lists of open tree requests. Dave advised that the Town currently has at least 80 open tree planting requests and that these requests will be evaluated for feasibility regarding tree planting.

American Chestnut signs in Parks – Dave advised that a request for funding has been submitted to CPC, and he will represent the committee at the public hearing next week.

### **New Business:**

Sean advised that Eversource has notified the Town of a planned gas main replacement on Bliss Road. The original plan would have impacted a significant number of trees. Sean has requested changes from Eversource to reduce the impact on street trees.

Annual Tree Committee Report – Dave has submitted Annual Tree Report for review and vote. The vote passed unanimously.

**Set Next Meeting Date/Time:** Next meeting 2/21/2023

**Meeting adjourned at 6:31 pm**

The purpose of the Tree Committee is to promote a healthy and sustainable community forest by planting and maintaining quality trees and providing education and advocacy to the public on the benefits of trees.